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Human Rights Council
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Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil,* China, Cuba, Egypt,* Haiti,* Iran (Islamic Republic of),* Morocco, Pakistan,* South Africa, Thailand,* Turkey:* draft resolution

32/... Promoting the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health through enhancing capacity-building in public health

The Human Rights Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 58/3 of 27 October 2003, 59/27 of 23 November 2004 and 60/35 of 30 November 2005,

Recalling also the ministerial declaration adopted at the 2009 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council on "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health",

Recalling further Human Rights Council resolutions 16/28 of 25 March 2011 and 30/8 of 1 October 2015, President's statements PRST/27/4 of 26 September 2014 and PRST/30/2 of 2 October 2015, and other relevant internationally agreed documents in the context of public health,

Reaffirming that the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health is a human right as reflected in, inter alia, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as, with respect to non-discrimination, in the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and that such a right derives from the inherent dignity of the human person,

Reaffirming also the right of every human being, without distinction of any kind, to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and to a

* State not a member of the Human Rights Council.

standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of oneself and one's family, including adequate food, hygiene and sanitation, clothing and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living conditions,

Recalling the Declaration on the Right to Development, which, inter alia, affirms that States should take, at the national level, all measures necessary for the realization of the right to development and should ensure, inter alia, equality of opportunity for all in their access to basic resources, such as health services,

Welcoming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1] including its Goal 3, which highlights the importance of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages, and recalling in that regard the adoption on 28 May 2016 by the World Health Assembly of resolution WHA69.11 entitled "Health in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Expressing deep concern at the continued deleterious impact of infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, Ebola, tuberculosis and malaria and the increasing number of epidemics and health emergencies, as well as non-communicable diseases, which place major demands on health resources and capabilities, together with a heavy disease burden on many countries, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries,

Recognizing the values and principles of primary health care, including equity, solidarity, social justice, universal access to services, multisectoral action, transparency, accountability and community participation and empowerment,

Recognizing also the need to strengthen resilience and to promote integrated national health systems aimed at ensuring universal access to quality health-care services, universal health coverage and social infrastructures and services, including access to medicines and vaccines, to reinforce measures to eliminate discrimination of any kind in respect for, promotion, protection and fulfilment of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health on the basis of equality, and in this regard to enhance access to information and education for all persons, especially for those in vulnerable situations,

Convinced that strengthening public health is critical to the development of all Member States, and that economic and social development are enhanced through measures that strengthen capacity-building in public health, including training, recruitment and retention of sufficient public health personnel, and systems of prevention of and immunization against infectious diseases,

Welcoming the efforts of the World Health Organization, in cooperation with Member States, in enhancing capacity-building in global public health and in meeting the targets specified in Sustainable Development Goal 3, and welcoming the adoption of by the World Health Assembly, on 28 May 2016, of its resolutions WHA69.20, on children's medication, WHA67.22 on essential medicine, and WHA67.19, on palliative care,

Recognizing the importance of substantially increasing health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries,

[1] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

Recognizing also the vital and complementary role of civil society in addressing and resolving challenges and issues that are important to society, including responding to public health crises,

Stressing the importance of strengthening the participation of women in decision-making processes and developing gender-sensitive multisectoral health policies and programmes in order to address their needs,

Emphasizing the importance of timely international cooperation in the area of health, and in particular in the prevention and control of infectious diseases, particularly during outbreaks and emergencies, including the need to cooperate on health research and development and tackling antimicrobial resistance based on the principles of mutual respect and equality, and in the context of the International Health Regulations (2005) of the World Health Organization, with a view to strengthening capacity-building in public health, especially in developing countries, through, inter alia, the exchange of information and the sharing of experience, as well as research and training programmes focusing on surveillance, prevention, control, response, and care and treatment,

Emphasizing also the importance of ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes,

Noting the ongoing work of the High-level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth, established by the Secretary-General on 2 March 2016,

1. *Urges* Member States and the international community to increase investment, building on existing mechanisms and through partnership, to improve health systems in developing countries and countries with economies in transition with the aim of providing sufficient health workers, infrastructures, management systems and supplies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to take the primary responsibility for strengthening their capacity-building in public health to detect and respond rapidly to outbreaks of major infectious diseases through the establishment and improvement of effective public health mechanisms, including full implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005), as well as strategies for training, recruitment and retention of sufficient public health personnel, and systems of prevention and of immunization against infectious diseases;

3. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to promote cooperation on strengthening the public health capacity of all countries, in particular on strengthening the national health systems of developing countries, particularly their capacities in accordance with the International Health Regulations (2005) to prevent, detect and respond to national and global health risks, including through technology transfer, financial and technical support and the training of personnel, and through access to medicines, including children's medicines, that are affordable, safe, efficacious and of quality;

4. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing international cooperation in the area of public health in the aftermath of natural disasters to support national efforts to cope in all phases of the response, and urges Member States and the international community to strengthen their cooperation programmes, preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery in this regard;

5. *Urges* further strengthening of international cooperation in the area of public health through, inter alia, the exchange of best practices in the area of strengthening public health systems, and welcomes in this regard South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation, and recognizes the commitment to explore opportunities for further South-South cooperation as a complement, not a substitute, to North-South cooperation;

6. *Acknowledges* the contribution of aid targeted towards the health sector, while recognizing that much more needs to be done, and calls upon states to fulfil their respective official development assistance commitments, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance, and urges those developed countries that have not done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments;

7. *Invites* Member States to foster public health systems that ensure the realization of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including of those in vulnerable situations;

8. *Encourages* United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, in particular the World Health Organization as the lead United Nations agency on health, in accordance with their respective mandates and as appropriate, to continue to address public health concerns in their activities and programmes, and to actively support capacity-building in global public health, such as through the provision of technical and other relevant assistance to developing countries, including the least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries;

9. *Encourages* the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council, especially the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, within their existing mandates, to continue to address public health concerns in their activities and programmes, and where feasible to support capacity-building in global public health, such as through the provision of technical and other relevant assistance to developing countries;

10. *Decides* to convene, at its thirty-fourth session, a panel discussion with the participation of States, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, academics and experts and non-governmental organizations, with the objective of exchanging experiences and practices on realizing the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health by enhancing capacity-building in public health, and that the discussion shall be fully accessible to persons with disabilities.